

Name_____

Pd._____

***A Separate Peace*: Chapter 5 Reading and Study Guide**

I. VOCABULARY: Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the novel and in class discussion.

infirmary_____

optimistic_____

Decalogue_____

jounce_____

II. LITERARY TERMS: Be able to define each term and apply each term to the novel.

personification_____

Example: _____

III. QUESTIONS: answer the following questions. Use complete sentences.

1. What did Gene do with Finny's clothes while Finny was in the infirmary?
2. Who is Finny's doctor?
3. What news does the doctor give Gene?
4. Why does Gene think Phineas wanted to see him first?
5. For what does Finny apologize to Gene?
6. What does Gene try to tell Finny but is unable to?
7. Where does Gene go for a month between sessions?
8. Instead of just going back to Devon, where does Gene stop off?
9. What does Gene tell Finny?

IV. Passages: the following passage might prove to be important. Re-read the sections with these passages and think about why they might be significant? What do they mean? What are important ideas, imagery, or words? How do they add to the story or a theme? Do they incorporate any literary devices?

—“But when I looked in the mirror it was no remote aristocrat I had become, no character out of daydreams. I was Phineas, Phineas to the life. I even had his humorous expression in my face, his sharp, optimistic awareness. I had no idea why this gave me such intense relief, but it seemed, standing there in Finny’s triumphant shirt, that I would never stumble through the confusions of my own character again.”

—““Oh, you know Finny.’ I didn’t, I was pretty sure I didn’t know Finny at all.”

—“It struck me then that I was injuring him again. It occurred to me that this could be an even deeper injury than what I had done before. I would have to back out of it, I would have to disown it. Could it be that he might even be right? Had I really and definitely and knowingly done it to him after all? I couldn’t remember, I couldn’t think. However it was, it was worse for him to know it. I had to take it back.”

—“I grinned at him. ‘Oh no, I wouldn’t do that,’ and that was the most false thing, the biggest lie of all.”